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Bureau of Land Management

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HISTORICAL DEMONSTRATIONS HELD FOR PUBLIC

MILES CITY – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Miles City Field Office is hosting historical talks and demonstrations for the public on Saturday, April 24, at the BLM Matthews Recreation Area.

Activities will include lectures and demonstrations on prehistoric survival skills and displays by frontier military reenactors. The event offers the historically-minded of all ages a chance to experience some of the skills and stories of Montana's past.

The outdoor demonstrations will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Matthews Recreation area is located about nine miles northeast of Miles City on the south side of the Yellowstone River on Valley Drive East.

Saturday kicks off Montana's Archaeology Week and the 2004 Montana Archaeological Society (MAS) annual meeting. The meeting is jointly sponsored by the Montana State Historical Preservation Office, the BLM and other federal agencies and private cultural resource consulting firms. This year marks the 46th annual meeting of MAS.

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A workshop designed for local teachers will be held on Friday, April 30, in addition to the week-long agenda of MAS related activities. "Project Archaeology" is sponsored by MAS and is intended to cover archaeological concepts for teachers of grades 4 through 12. Montana prehistory and resource conservation as well as Native American perspectives on archaeology and historical preservation will be discussed.

The class will be run from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Miles Community College, room 106. The instruction is covered by Jeanne Moe, National Project Archaeology Director.

The society was established in 1958 and publishes the publication *Archaeology in Montana*. The objectives of MAS are to promote and stimulate interest and research in anthropology and archaeology in Montana. BLM personnel have actively participated in the society as officers and members and by contributing scholarly papers.

For additional information about MAS events for the week, please contact BLM Archaeologist Doug Melton at 233-2847 or BLM Archaeologist Will Hubbell at 233-2848.

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